

**THIS IS THE DAY TO FIND A HOME IN THE****EXTRA.**  
2 O'CLOCK.**WM. ASTOR DEAD.****He Passed Away Last Night in Hotel Liverpool, Paris.**

WILLIAM ASTOR.

**Heart Failure Reported to Have Been the Cause.****He Was Third in the List of America's Millionaires.****His Fortune Estimated at Nearly Sixty Million Dollars.****Worry Over the Late Drayton Scandal Had Greatly Prostrated Him.**

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[SPECIAL CABLE TO THE EVENING WORLD.]  
Paris, April 26.—William Astor died last night at Hotel Liverpool. The cause was heart failure.

Mr. Astor was the father of Mrs. J. Coleman Drayton, and was greatly worried over the Borrowe-Fox-Milbank scandal, in which she was involved.

At John Jacob Astor's house, 874 Fifth avenue, it was said that the news of Mr. Astor's death was received by cable last night. The latter said the news was a great shock to the family.

"Mr. Astor had been ill with congestion of the lungs," he continued, "but his condition was not considered critical."  
"He died at 11 o'clock last night and the news was immediately cabled to Mr. John Jacob Astor."

Mr. John Jacob Astor was not at home when The Evening World reporter called. The latter said that, to his knowledge, no arrangements had yet been made for the funeral.

He presumed that the body would be conveyed to New York for burial in the family plot.

At the offices of Mr. William Astor, 23 West Twenty-sixth street, the clerks were apparently unaware of the death of their employer. The manager, however, had heard of it, though he did not care to say anything about it yet.

The most complete surprise was apparent when The Evening World reporter announced the death of Mr. Astor to the manager of Mr. William Waldorf Astor's property, at 21 West Twenty-sixth street.

Mr. William Waldorf Astor's house, at 8 East Thirty-third street, is closed. Mr. Astor and his family are in London.

Mr. William Astor's house, at 350 Fifth avenue, has been closed since the family went to Europe.

J. Coleman Drayton, who has so recently been thrust into the position of the most widely talked about son-in-law of Mr. Astor, was at his office, 67 Wall street, today when

an Evening World reporter told him the first news of his father-in-law's death. Mr. Drayton contented himself with simply sending word, in answer to cards, that "he was very sorry he couldn't spare the time to be interviewed."

It has long been an accepted fact that in his recent domestic difficulties Mr. Drayton has enjoyed the sympathies of Mr. Astor, and his studied efforts at reticence are regarded as quite unexplainable under the circumstances.

William Astor could never expect to equal the wealth of his brother, the late John Jacob Astor, who received the lion's share of the patrimony, and whose fortune at his death was estimated at \$200,000,000, but he did what he could to make his small nest-egg grow, and devoted the greater part of his energies to speculating in city real estate and in large investments which would be certain to yield an enormous return by increased valuation as the years went by.

William Astor handled his business on the same plan as that adopted by his richer brother. Their offices were together, at 23 and 25 West Twenty-sixth street, and it has been the supposition of many that they owned most of the Astor property in common. This, however, as was shown after the death, Feb. 22, 1890, of John Jacob Astor, was not the case.

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William R. Astor, the father of William Astor, died in 1875.

The mother of William Astor was a daughter of Gen. Armstrong, who was Secretary of War in the Cabinet of President Madison.

The staid and sedate ways of the Astors have been remarked for a whole century, but William Astor's sedateness took the turn of indolent luxury.

True, he had an office, the exact fac simile of that of his elder brother, the late John Jacob Astor, and his next door neighbor, but he left his business of collecting rents quite entirely to his clerk.

It was the whim of William Astor that it was undignified for a great landed proprietor to concern himself about details of business, and he liked to look upon himself as a fashionable man, and there can be no doubt that he felt aggrieved, while his more active brother, John Jacob, lived, that he must take the place of a "younger son."

He left business, however, to "John," who trusted down to the office every day and counted the money while he wandered over the world in his steam yacht, the Nourmahal, which is a small ocean steamship.

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